



LATINO VOTES COUNT!

The 2007 Latino Voting Summit

Saturday, September 22, 2007

8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Southern Connecticut State University
Michael J. Adanti Student Center, Ballroom
Fitch and Crescent Streets
New Haven, Connecticut

Schedule

8:30 – 8:45 a.m.

Registration and Coffee

Michael J. Adanti Student Center, Ballroom

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Optical Scanner Voting Machine Demo

8:45 – 9:00 a.m.

Welcoming Remarks

The Honorable Susan Bysiewicz, Secretary of the State
Dr. Cheryl J. Norton, President, Southern Connecticut State University
The Honorable John DeStefano, Mayor of New Haven
Fernando Betancourt Asencio, Executive Director, Connecticut
Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission
Dr. Joyce Hamilton Henry, Executive Director, DemocracyWorks
Iviana Martínez, President, Organization of Latin American Students

9:00 – 10:10 a.m.

Panel Discussion: *Best Practices and Strategies for Effective Latino Voter Outreach, Registration and Participation*

Moderator: The Honorable Susan Bysiewicz,
Secretary of the State of Connecticut

Panelists: Santa Ayala, Registrar of Voters, City of Bridgeport;
Evelyn Mantilla, Former State Representative (D-04 Hartford);
Adriana Arreola, City of New Haven Office of Community Services

10:20 – 11:30 a.m.

Panel Discussion: *Latino Demographics, Civics Education, and Leadership Development*

Moderator: Fernando Betancourt Asencio, Executive Director,
Connecticut Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission

Panelists: Luis Cabán, Executive Director, Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance (SINA) Inc.; Dr. José E. Cruz, Associate Professor of Political Science at the State University of New York at Albany and Director of the New York Latino Research and Resources Network; Dr. Joyce Hamilton Henry, Executive Director, DemocracyWorks

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch and Keynote

Musical Performance: Lorena Garay, Puerto Rican Guitarist

Introduction of guest speakers: Valeriano Ramos, Director of Constituent Services, Office of the Secretary of the State

Introduction of Keynote Speaker: Luis Cabán, Executive Director, Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance (SINA), Inc.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Juan Andrade Jr., President and Executive Director, United States Hispanic Leadership Institute

Dr. Juan Andrade Jr. is the President and Executive Director of the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute (USHLI). A renowned national Latino leader, he is a recipient of the Presidential Citizens Medal, presented to him by President Bill Clinton in recognition of "performance of exemplary deeds of service for the nation." The medal is the second highest honor awarded to a civilian by the President. He is one of only two Latinos in history to receive this honor, awarded for extraordinary accomplishments in promoting civic participation and leadership development. Recognized as one of the most educated leaders in the country, Dr. Andrade has a B.A. from Howard Payne University, a M.Ed. from Antioch College, an Ed.S. and a Doctorate from Northern Illinois University, and a post-doctorate M.A. from Loyola University Chicago, five degrees in all. Through his leadership, the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute has trained 250,000 present and future leaders, registered two million new voters, published 425 studies on Hispanic demographics, including the flagship publication *The Almanac of Latino Politics*, and sponsored the largest Latino leadership conference in the nation. Dr. Andrade is also a weekly columnist for the Chicago Sun-Times; he is the only national leader writing a regular weekly column in a major publication. He has also been a commentator for ABC television and WGN radio.

1:05 – 2:00 p.m.

Small Group Discussions

Participants engage in constructive, action-oriented discussions on ways to reach out to and effectively engage Latinos in electoral and political participation. There will be six groups each focusing on a particular topic.

2:05 – 3:00 p.m.

Plenary Session

Reporters from each of the groups will present brief summaries on the discussions. These will be incorporated into the action plan. Volunteers will sign up to serve on a Connecticut Latino Voting Steering Committee that will meet on an ongoing basis to further develop and implement the action-plan.